

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 STATE 053973

15

ORIGIN EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 IO-12 DOTE-00 CIAE-00 COME-00

DODE-00 FMC-04 INR-09 NSAE-00 RSC-01 CG-00 COA-02

OIC-04 GAC-01 ACDA-19 PM-09 L-03 NASA-04 NSC-10

OST-04 SCI-06 CCO-00 OTP-02 FCC-03 OC-06 AF-10 ARA-11

EA-11 NEA-10 /178 R

DRAFTED BY EB/ TD: AEFRANK: SP

2/23/73 EXT. 22592

APPROVED BY EB/ TD: TENELSON

OTP - MR. SMITH

CG - CAPTAIN ADAMS

EB/ MA - MR. WEBB

IO/ TRC - MR. GRIP

----- 010344

R 232009 Z MAR 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY LONDON

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 053973

E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: ETEL, IMCO

SUBJECT: IMCO: MARITIME SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING

FOR ADMIRAL REA

1. RE AGENDA ITEM 9 - REPORT OF THE SUB- COMMITTEE ON
RADIOCOMMUNICATIONS - U. S. DELEGATE SHOULD INDICATE
HIS STATEMENT ON MARITIME SATELLITE ISSUE IS FOR THE
RECORD. FURTHER, IF INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE MATTER
HANDLED WITHOUT COMING TO A VOTE, U. S. DELEGATE SHOULD
NOTE THAT HAD THERE BEEN A VOTE, U. S. WOULD HAVE ABSTAINED.

2. FOLLOWING IS BRIEF COMMENTARY ON COMSAT/ GAPSAT

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 STATE 053973

PROJECT WHICH U. S. DELEGATE MAY INSERT IN RECORD IF HE DEEMS THIS WOULD BE USEFUL, POSSIBLY AT SAME TIME HE MAKING STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN PARA 1 ABOVE, OR USE AS BACKGROUND MATERIAL IN INFORMAL DISCUSSIONS OF THIS SUBJECT.

THE COMMUNICATIONS SATELLITE CORPORATION (COMSAT), A PRIVATE U. S. ENTITY, HAS BEEN AWARDED A U. S. NAVY CONTRACT TO PROVIDE A FLEET INTERIM SATELLITE COMMUNICATIONS SERVICE IN THE ATLANTIC AND PACIFIC OCEANS BEGINNING IN 1974 AND

EXTENDING UNTIL 1976 WITH THE POSSIBILITY THIS COULD BE EXTENDED ONE YEAR OR LONGER. THE SYSTEM ORBIT, ONE OVER THE ATLANTIC AND ONE OVER THE PACIFIC OCEANS. THE CHANNELS TO BE PROVIDED WILL BE IN THE 240-400 MHZ FREQUENCY BAND.

COMSAT, ON ITS OWN INITIATIVE, IS PROPOSING TO PROVIDE SOME ADDITIONAL LIMITED CAPACITY ON THESE SATELLITES TO OPERATE IN THE L- BAND AND C- BAND TO SERVE COMMERCIAL USERS. THIS WOULD BE A PRIVATE UNDERTAKING BY COMSAT, ENTIRELY AT THE COMPANY' S OWN FINANCIAL RISK.

IN ITS FORMAL APPLICATION TO THE UNITED STATES FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION FOR AUTHORITY TO CONSTRUCT AND OPERATE THIS SATELLITE COMMUNICATIONS CAPACITY, COMSAT STATED WITH RESPECT TO THE EXCESS CAPACITY PORTION OF ITS PROPOSAL, THAT IS THE L- BAND AND C- BAND, ALONG THE FOLLOWING LINES: " IN PROPOSING TO PROVIDE COMMERCIAL MARITIME SATELLITE COMMUNICATIONS SERVICES, COMSAT IS MINDFUL OF THE EFFORTS UNDER WAY TOWARD LONG- TERM POLICY DECISIONS REGARDING MARITIME SATELLITE COMMUNICATIONS. A NUMBER OF COUNTRIES IN ADDITION TO THE UNITED STATES ARE ACTIVELY ENGAGED, THROUGH IMCO, INTELSAT AND OTHER CHANNELS, IN DISCUSSING THE ALTERNATIVES AND FORMULATING THEIR POSITIONS. A WORLD ADMINISTRATIVE RADIO CONFERENCE TO DEAL WITH MARITIME COMMUNICATIONS IS TO TAKE PLACE IN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 STATE 053973

1974. CONSIDERATION IS BEING GIVEN TO THE

POSSIBILITY OF HAVING AN INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF GOVERNMENTS TO BE HELD AS EARLY AS 1974, IN ORDER TO PROCEED TOWARD AGREEMENT ON APPROPRIATE INTERNATIONAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR AN INTERNATIONAL MARITIME SATELLITE SERVICE. INTELSAT IS UNDERTAKING STUDIES TO DETERMINE THE DESIRABILITY OF INCLUDING A MARITIME CAPABILITY IN AN INTELSAT V SATELLITE, WHICH COULD BE REQUIRED SOME TIME IN 1978 OR 1979. COMSAT'S PROPOSAL DOES NOT IN ANY WAY PREJUDICE THE OUTCOME OF THESE LONG RANGE EFFORTS. TO THE CONTRARY, NOT ONLY WILL COMSAT'S PROPOSED SYSTEM MAKE SERVICE AVAILABLE IN AN EARLIER TIMEFRAME THAN IS OTHERWISE POSSIBLE IN THESE OTHER CONTEXTS, BUT IT ALSO OFFERS A UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY FOR EXPERIMENTATION WITH EQUIPMENT AND SERVICES THAT COULD SERVE TO GREATLY BENEFIT ANY EVENTUAL MARITIME SATELLITE SYSTEM."

WITH RESPECT TO THE TIMEFRAME WITHIN WHICH THESE SATELLITES WILL OPERATE, IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT THE SATELLITES WILL BE DEPLOYED IN 1974 AND WILL HAVE A FIVE YEAR LIFETIME DESIGN. THEIR USEFULNESS WOULD END, THEREFORE, IN THE LATE 1970'S, WHICH IS ABOUT THE SAME TIME THAT PRESENT TIMETABLES ENVISAGE THE POSSIBLE BEGINNING OF A LARGE- SCALE MARITIME SATELLITE COMMUNICATIONS CAPABILITY. ROGERS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 23 MAR 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: boyleja
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973STATE053973
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: AEFRANK: SP
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: n/a
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: SECSTATE WASHDC
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730338/aaaaihmv.tel
Line Count: 147
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ORIGIN EB
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: boyleja
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 02 AUG 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <02-Aug-2001 by worrelsw>; APPROVED <31-Aug-2001 by boyleja>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> srp 971229
Subject: IMCO: MARITIME SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING FOR ADMIRAL REA
TAGS: ETEL, IMCO
To: LONDON
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005